

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 118559

EXDIS - HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOL BONN 8473 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO ANKARA NICOSIA
ATHENS USNATO PARIS LONDON MAY 8, 1978 REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 08473

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, XT, GW, GR, TU

SUBJECT: CARAMANLIS' VISIT TO FRG

REFS: (A) BONN 8037; (B) BONN 6575 (NOTAL)

1. CARAMANLIS, ACCOMPANIED BY FOREIGN MINISTER
PAPALIGOURAS AND CHEF DE CABINET MOLYVIATIS MET WITH
SCHMIDT AND GENSCHER FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR ON
MAY 3. EMBOFF RECEIVED FOLLOWING READOUT ON MEETING.
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2. CYPRUS: CARAMANLIS SAID HE WAS ANXIOUS TO FIND A
WORKABLE SOLUTION BUT THE TURKS CONTINUED TO BLOCK
PROGRESS. THEIR PROPOSALS WERE "COMPLETELY UNSATIS-
FACTORY." FOR EXAMPLE, THEY HAD CALLED FOR 35
PERCENT OF THE TERRITORY TO REMAIN IN TURKISH CYPRIOT
HANDS WITH ONLY 3 PERCENT TO BE RETURNED. THIS WOULD

MAKE IMPOSSIBLE A SOLUTION TO THE REFUGEE QUESTION. MOREOVER, THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSALS WERE SIMILARLY INADEQUATE. IN REPLY, SCHMIDT SAID IT WAS SIGNIFICANT THAT THE TURKS HAD FINALLY MET GREEK DEMANDS FOR PROPOSALS AND IT WAS NOW IMPORTANT TO USE THEM AS A POINT OF DEPARTURE. CARAMANLIS COUNTERED THAT THE TURKISH PROPOSALS WERE BASED ON PRINCIPLES WHICH THE GREEK CYPRIOTS COULD NOT ACCEPT AS THE STARTING POINT FOR NEGOTIATIONS. HE WAS READY TO TALK FURTHER WITH ECEVIT AND WALDHEIM TO SEE WHAT COULD BE DONE. CARAMANLIS ASKED SCHMIDT TO HELP INFLUENCE THE TURKS TOWARDS TABLING MORE RESPONSIBLE PROPOSALS. SCHMIDT AGREED TO DO SO.

3. SCHMIDT SAID HE WAS CONSIDERING TELLING ECEVIT (DURING HIS MAY 10-13 VISIT HERE) THAT CARAMANLIS WAS ANXIOUS TO CONTINUE THEIR DIALOGUE. IF CARAMANLIS CONCURRED, HE WOULD SUGGEST TO ECEVIT THAT HE AGREE TO A TETE-A-TETE WITH THE GREEK LEADER DURING THE NATO SUMMIT IN WASHINGTON. CARAMANLIS AGREED. HE ASKED THAT THIS APPROACH BE HELD CONFIDENTIAL AND NOTED THAT HE WAS ANXIOUS TO CONTINUE A SERIOUS, NON-PUBLIC DIALOGUE. HE CLAIMED THAT ECEVIT HAD MADE 18 PUBLIC STATEMENTS SINCE MONTRUX WHILE HE HAD REMAINED SILENT. ECEVIT WAS NOT HELPING MATTERS BY DOING THIS.

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4. CARAMANLIS SAID HE HAD RETURNED TO POLITICAL LIFE WITH TWO PRINCIPAL GOALS; FINDING A SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEMS BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY AND FIRMLY EMBEDDING GREECE IN THE WESTERN WORLD. SCHMIDT SAID HE WOULD ALSO PASS THIS ON TO ECEVIT.

5. NATO: CARAMANLIS SAID THE CONCLUSION OF NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN GREECE AND NATO WOULD MEAN A "90 PERCENT RETURN" OF GREECE TO THE ALLIANCE. THE TURKS, HOWEVER, WERE MAKING THE CONCLUSION OF NEGOTIATIONS DIFFICULT. CARAMANLIS ASKED SCHMIDT TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER WITH ECEVIT AND THE CHANCELLOR AGREED TO DO SO.

6. EC ACCESSION: SCHMIDT EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT ALL IMPORTANT QUESTIONS COULD BE DISPOSED OF DURING THE GERMAN PRESIDENCY, I.E. THE SECOND HALF OF 1978. FORMAL ACCESSION WOULD THEN BE COMPLETED BY JUNE 30, 1979 AND PARLIAMENTARY RATIFICATION WOULD TAKE PLACE IN 1980. CARAMANLIS SAID THIS TIMETABLE MET HIS OWN EXPECTATIONS AS WELL AS HIS GOAL OF TYING GREECE'S FUTURE FIRMLY WITH THAT OF THE WEST.

7. GREEK-TURKISH SECRETARIES-GENERAL MEETING:

CARAMANLIS SAID HE HAD SUGGESTED TO ECEVIT THAT THE MEETING OF THE SECRETARIES-GENERAL BE DELAYED BECAUSE OF HIS CONCERN THAT IT WOULD BE NEGATIVELY INFLUENCED BY AN INCREASE IN PUBLIC TENSION SURROUNDING US CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE OVER THE LIFTING OF THE ARMS EMBARGO. ECEVIT HAD REACTED ANGRILY AND HAD PROTESTED THE DECISION STRONGLY THROUGH HIS AMBASSADOR IN ANKARA.

8. TURKISH-SOVIET RELATIONS: SCHMIDT EXPRESSED

CONCERN THAT A MAINTENANCE OF THE US ARMS EMBARGO COULD CAUSE THE TURKS TO CONTINUE TO "FLIRT" WITH THE CONFIDENTIAL

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SOVIETS. HE FEARED THAT MOSCOW WOULD INTENSIFY ITS OVERTURES AND THAT THE TURKISH MILITARY, WHICH WAS MOST ANXIOUS TO OBTAIN NEW WEAPONS, MIGHT BE INCLINED TO LEAN MORE TOWARDS THE SOVIETS. (THIS ANALYSIS IS SHARED BY WORKING-LEVEL OFFICIALS IN THE FOREIGN OFFICE.)

9. IN A SEPARATE CONVERSATION IN THE FOREIGN OFFICE, WE WERE TOLD THAT THE ECONOMICS AND FINANCE MINISTRIES RECLUTANCE TO INCREASE FRG ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY (BEYOND THAT OUTLINED REFTEL B) HAD BECOME THE DOMINANT POSITION IN THE FRG. THE ONLY PROSPECT FOR INCREASED AID WAS NOW A POLITICAL DECISION BY THE CHANCELLOR AT THE MAY 10 CABINET MEETING. STOESEL UNQUOTE VANCE

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